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THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE
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PART II EXTRAORDINARY

No.108

AMARAVATI, TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023

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NOTIFICATIONS BY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, Etc.

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**HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
(VC)**

Letter No.1726929/VC/A1A2/2022-1.

Dated: 21.08.2023.

CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS AGAINST VICE-CHANCELLOR, DRAVIDIAN UNIVERSITY, KUPPAM IN AWARDING Ph.D. DEGREES - FURNISHING OF INQUIRY REPORT OF Dr. JUSTICE B. SESHASAYANA REDDY (RETD.), HIGH COURT JUDGE AND INQUIRING AUTHORITY TO Prof. TUMMALA RAMAKRISHNA, THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF DRAVIDIAN UNIVERSITY UNDER SECTION 11(1A) OF THE DRAVIDIAN UNIVERSITY ACT, 1997 (ACT No. 17 OF 1997).

- Ref: 1. G.O.Rt.No.30, H.E.,(VC) Dept., dated 23.02.2023.
2. G.O.Ms.No.15, H.E., (VC) Dept., dated 24.05.2023
3. From Dr.Justice B. Seshasayana Reddy (Retd.), High Court Judge and Inquiring Authority Lr. dt.13.06.2023.

I am to inform that the Government have noticed that certain irregularities were committed by you and former Vice-Chancellors, in admitting a large number of M.Phil/Ph.D students without following UGC guidelines and without having relevant faculty and infrastructure through the distance education centres, and award of MPhil/PhD Degrees in violation of UGC Regulations, EC resolutions and Court orders. Accordingly, the Chancellor of the University felt that there is a prima facie evidence in the matter to probe further, and vide GOs 1st and 2nd cited, Dr.Justice B.Seshasayana Reddy (Retd.), High Court Judge has been appointed as an Inquiring Authority, under sub-section (1A) of Section 11 of the Dravidian University Act, 1997 (Act No.17 of 1997) to enquire on the following aspects:-

- a. the total episode of admissions, evaluation and awarding Ph.D Degrees in violations of UGC Regulations and Hon'ble High Court orders and also issuing notification for awarding Ph.D degrees by the then Vice-Chancellors and the Present Vice-Chancellor and other in violation of Hon'ble High Court orders and UGC Regulations;
- b. the motives for not placing the Court orders before the Executive Council and proposal for award of Ph.D degree before the Academic Senate which is the body for taking policy decisions on the academic matters;
- c. the motives for not taking corrective steps or action by the University as per rules in force based on the two-member committee report to till date;
- d. to identify the person or persons responsible for the lapse and nature of punishment to be imposed;
- e. to suggest the further course of action on the Ph.D degrees awarded in violation of UGC Regulations.

2. In the Inquiring Authority has submitted the report vide his letter 3rd read above. In the said report the Inquiring Authority has reported that notices have been issued to the former Vice-Chancellors and the present Vice Chancellor on 11.04.2023 to enable them to send their response to the particulars furnished by the Registrar; that you have submitted your response on 24.04.2023; that subsequently, on 26.05.2023 another notice has been issued to you via email informing of the issuance of G.O.Ms.No.15, Higher Education (VC) Department dated:24.05.2023 and seeking your response to the allegations mentioned in the G.O. that there upon you sent your response via email on 26.05.2023 at 21.25 Hrs, stating that you have already submitted your response on 24.04.2023 and you have nothing to add to the earlier response.

3. The Inquiring Authority in his report has clearly reported that there is any amount of negligence and carelessness on the part of Prof.E.Sathyanarayana, former Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Tummala Ramakrishna, Present Vice-Chancellor (ie., you), in approving the note for notification of award of M.Phil./Ph.D Degrees to the candidates, and amounts to lack of devotion to duty and unbecoming of the positions held by them. Further, the Inquiring authority in his findings has reported that the former Vice Chancellor Prof. Satyanarayana and the present Vice Chancellor Prof. Tummala Ramakrishna (ie., you) notified the award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degrees.

4. It is to inform further that the Chancellor of the University has accepted the Inquiry Report submitted by the Inquiring Authority through reference 3rd read above, and provisionally decided to initiate action against you under Section 11(1A) of the Dravidian University Act, 1997 (Act No.17 of 1997) by giving an opportunity of making your representation, if any, as stipulated in the said section 11(1A) of the Act.

5. Therefore, I am to communicate herewith a copy of the report of the Inquiring Authority received through the reference 3rd cited, and to direct you to submit your representation if any, within 15 days of receipt of this letter, against the proposed provisional decision of removal from the office of Vice-chancellor of Dravidian University in exercise of the powers conferred under Sub-Section (1A) of Section 11 of the Dravidian University Act, 1997 (Act No.17 of 1997) and as amended subsequently from time to time.

6. It is also to inform that if no reply/representation is received from you within the stipulated time, it will be construed that you have no explanation/representation to offer, and further action will be taken based on the material available on record.

7. This letter is issued with the approval of the Chancellor of Dravidian University & the Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

(Sd/-).,

for Principal Secretary to Government.

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